

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph appearing at page 89, lines 23-32 with the following replacement paragraph:

EXAMPLE 9

IL-18 Receptor and IL-1 Receptor Binding of hIL-1Ra1

To facilitate the characterization of hIL-1Ra1, a PCR fragment containing the partial ORF of clone DNA85066 (Figure 1; SEQ ID NO:31) was cloned into pCMV1FLAG (IBI Kodak, described in Pan et al., Science, 276: 111-113) as an in-frame fusion to a NH2-terminal preprotrypsin leader sequence and FLAG tag encoded by the vector. The entire cDNA insert of the recombinant pCMV1FLAG vector clone (designated clone DNA96786) was sequenced (Figure 2; SEQ ID NO:4). The cDNAs encoding the extracellular domain of hIL1R and hIL18R (formerly known as hIL1Rrp) were obtained by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and cloned into a modified pCMV1FLAG vector that allowed for in-frame fusion with the Fc portion of human immunoglobulin G.